

## **Weekly Status & Information Report: March 19 - 23, 2012**

### **1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of March 26, 2012:**

- City Council meeting, Monday, March 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
  - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room
  - Redistricting Task Force meeting, Wednesday, March 28, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room
  - Board of Elections meeting, Thursday, March 29, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room
- All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. *(City Clerk)*

**2. Ward 3 Night on April 2:** Residents of Ward 3 are invited to join the City Council on Monday, April 2, for a reception from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Atrium Lobby. A special Ward 3 public comment session will be held at the beginning of the City Council meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m. This is the first in the 2012 series of Ward Nights. Residents who have questions may contact their City Councilmember or Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk at 301-891-7267, [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org). *(City Clerk)*

**3. Bus Visit POSTPONED:** Due to expected rainy weather, we are POSTPONING tomorrow's demonstration of the small clean-diesel Ride On bus that may replace the gasoline-fueled buses along Routes 18 and 25. The new demonstration date will be Saturday, April 14 at 9:00 a.m., in the parking lot of the Takoma Park Community Center. *(Deputy City Manager)*

**4. "H@ndymen" Opening Reception - Tonight:** Join us this evening to celebrate the work of local artist and contractor, Harry Stone. Stone's paintings joyfully portray the tension of balancing contracting work, creative output, personal introspection, and social commentary. Tonight's opening reception will be held from 6 pm to 8 pm in the Atrium Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue). Open to the public - free admission. Details at <http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events>. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**5. Recreation Staff to Referee "Student vs. Staff Basketball Game":** In partnership with Takoma Park Middle School two Recreation Staff will volunteer to referee the Student vs. Staff Basketball Game tonight. The game benefits the PTA and is always exciting for students and parents. The game starts at 7:30 p.m. For more information call TPMS at (301) 650-6444. *(Recreation)*

**6. Main Street Takoma – Art Hop!:** On Saturday and Sunday, "Art Hop" will showcase a variety of art from more than 30 artists in shops throughout Old Town, The Junction and Takoma DC, with more street music and artist demonstrations than ever before. A great way to spend the weekend and to support Main Street! [www.arthoptakoma.com](http://www.arthoptakoma.com). *(Housing and Community Development)*

**7. Concerts at the Community Center:** The Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium is the place to be, with three concerts planned for the coming week. Tomorrow (March 24), its Bruce Molsky & Ale Möller in concert performing work from a broad range of cultures. On Sunday, the Maeve Gilchrist Trio offers traditional Celtic harp music. And on Wednesday, March 28, enjoy the rich, soaring four-part vocal arrangements and high energy dance tunes of Long Time Courting. Concerts sponsored by the Institute of Musical Traditions. Admission fee. Details available online at [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org). *(Housing and Community Development)*

**8. "The Last Mountain" Screening - March 29:** We are Takoma and The Dance Exchange present a screening of the award winning documentary, "The Last Mountain". Learn about the struggle of a small community of passionate locals in West Virginia trying to stop the destructive practice of mountain top removal. Following the film, Dance Exchange Artistic Director Cassie Meador will discuss her upcoming project "How to Lose a Mountain." <http://danceexchange.org/projects/how-to-lose-a-mountain/> Thursday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Free admission. Details at <http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events>. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**9. Flower Avenue Green Street Design Update:** The City has posted a Request For Proposals from qualified firms to develop the Flower Avenue Green Street Project. The Pre-Bid meeting was held on March 22. Twenty-six people attended representing 18 separate firms. The bid deadline is April 20, 2012. The City's website includes the RFP and survey documents at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/floweravenue](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/floweravenue). *(Public Works)*

**10. A Meeting of Friends:** The Friends of the Library annual meeting on March 20 featured NPR science reporter Richard Harris, who addressed a rapt audience of 44. In the ensuing Board election, Pat Hanrahan was elected as the Friends' new President. Rebekah Zanditon was re-elected Vice President and Jim Kuhn as treasurer. Sylvie Shaffer became the Friends' new Secretary, with Walter Mulbry, AnneMarie Stroud, and Karen Boyer (formerly President) serving as Members-at-Large. Nominating Committee members Kay Daniels-Cohen, Miriam Szapiro and Faith Stern conducted the election. The Friends gave \$15,801.99 in gifts to the Library in the preceding year (March 2011 to March 2012). *(Library)*

**11. Not So Miserables:** The Friends' Reading Group discussions of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" will continue on Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room. All are welcome, whether or not you have read this 1200 page novel – one of the longest in European literature! *(Library)*

**12. Flag Football + Kick Ball + Volunteers = Happy Kids:** It's not too late to join the fun! The Recreation Department's Flag Football and Kickball programs began this past week. The programs were lead by recreation department staff, with the help of two high school volunteers, and one university student volunteer. Parents and children gave good feedback about the program

after its first week. *(Recreation)*

13. **Softball in Takoma Park:** It's that time of year again. Calling all softball players and teams – please register for the Adult Softball League. This league is coed and all games are played on Sunday mornings. Registration Deadline is April 6 – so hurry and don't be late. For more information please contact EricR@takomagov.org or call (301) 891-7290. [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/flyers/softball\\_flyer\\_2012\\_color\\_for\\_web.pdf](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/flyers/softball_flyer_2012_color_for_web.pdf). *(Recreation)*

14. **Living Well Workshop for Seniors:** The very successful six-week program, "Living Well-Take Charge of Your Health", ended on Tuesday, March 13. According to the program leaders, Takoma Park seniors had one of the highest completion rates of any of their previous sessions held in Montgomery County, and thus a majority received "certificates of completion" for this Stanford University Program. This program is designed to help seniors learn self-management strategies to improve their health and quality of life, and was sponsored by Holy Cross Hospital in partnership with the Takoma Park Recreation Department. Good work seniors! *(Recreation)*

15. **Free Tax Service for Seniors:** The February 15 and March 14 free tax service days were so popular with seniors, who filled all the appointment time slots, that Takoma Park has been allotted an additional tax service day for next month: Thursday, April 12. The Takoma Park Recreation Department is partnering with AARP and the Montgomery County RSVP to bring this free tax aide program to Takoma Park seniors. To schedule an appointment, call the AARP Appointment Office at 240-777-2577. For more information about this service, please contact Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, at PaulaL@takomagov.org or 301-891-7280. *(Recreation)*

16. **Spring Break Camp - It's All Natural:** Hurry, sign up today as there are only a few spaces left. Spring Break Camp will run Monday, April 2 - Friday, April 7 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day. All participants must bring a bag lunch. Ages 5 - 11. Resident fee: \$140; Non-Resident fee \$160. Fee includes a trip to Rollingcrest pool and Botanical Gardens. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

17. **Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** Spring is finally here and that can only mean one thing.....Easter!! The Recreation Department will be hosting its annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at Lee Jordan Field (behind Takoma Park Middle School). The hunt will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. and is for girls and boys ages 2 - 8. This event is one you won't want to miss, so get your baskets ready. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

18. **Fun Day - Hammond Hardwood House:** Remember, school is out on Friday, March 30 and the Recreation Department is hosting its last Fun Day event of the school year. Participants will be visiting the Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis MD. The Hammond-Harwood House is known as the Jewel of Annapolis. This Colonial house has been preserved and kept intact since 1774. Program is open to girls and boys ages 5-12. Participants will meet at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Ave.) at 8:30 a.m. The fee is \$35 for Takoma Park residents and \$45 for all non-residents. A non-perishable lunch must be provided with each child. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

19. **Girls on the Rise:** This self-esteem program encourages girls who are ages 10-14 to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles. Girls on the Rise address aspects of girls' development through their physical, emotional, mental and, social well-being. This program is led by Patty Chappell and meets on Thursdays at Takoma Park Recreation Center from 7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. *(Recreation)*

20. **City Support for Commercial Façade Improvements - Deadline March 31:** The City's Façade Easement Program provides matching funds to business and property owners for physical improvements to building exteriors and their surroundings. The program will provide a dollar for dollar match up to 50% of the overall cost for eligible improvement expenses, up to \$10,000 per storefront. The application deadline is March 31 and applicants are strongly encouraged to contact staff prior to making a submission. The downloadable application packet outlines eligible areas in the city, types of improvements covered in the program, and review process: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/documents/newsfeed/2012%20Facade%20Easement%20Application%20&%20Map.pdf>. For more information, contact Erkin Ozberk at 301-891-7213 or ErkinO@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

21. **First Time Home Buyer Class - April 14:** It's not too late to register for the First Time Home Buyer class that will be held on Saturday, April 14, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. A HUD-approved nonprofit housing agency sponsors the program and a certificate is awarded to attendees that can be used to access county and state low interest loan programs. The class is free of charge to Takoma Park residents and \$25 for nonresident. Pre-registration is required by calling 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

22. **F4/F6 Metrobus Rider Survey Online:** A Rider Survey is the first step of a WMATA study on the busy F4/F6 Metrobus lines that travel through Takoma Park across East-West Highway (MD 410) connecting Silver Spring and New Carrollton stations. Members of the team discussed the project and initial findings at a public open house at the Takoma Park Community Center on Thursday, March 22. To learn more about the F4/F6 Study and take the Rider Survey online, see: <http://metrobus-studies.com/F4-F6/F4-F6-Line.htm>. *(Housing and Community Development)*

23. **New Hampshire Avenue Express Bus Approved:** The WMATA Board has approved a new MetroExtra express bus to operate during rush hours serving New Hampshire Avenue, a route currently served by the local K6 Metrobus. It will be called the K9 and it will begin service in December 2012. This project includes the purchase of four buses and is the most expensive

Metrobus service change of the 20 "priority corridor" projects approved this week. The City of Takoma Park has lobbied for some time for the K9 bus. Thank you, Metro! *(Deputy City Manager)*

**24. Free- Consumer Guide to Homeowners Insurance:** The Maryland Insurance Administration publishes a handbook on Homeowners Insurance that is a quick and easy guide to understanding Homeowner's insurance policies. The guide discusses why you need insurance, the types of policies, factors in the cost of a policy, your obligations after a loss, and how to better protect your home. For a copy of this informative handbook, call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**25. Community Outreach Officer (Pfc. Carla Magnaye):**

- On March 19, Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye conducted foot patrol at various parks, and conducted a residential security survey and attended the Long Branch-Sligo neighborhood association meeting to discuss forming a neighborhood watch group.
- On March 20 Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye conducted foot patrol in the 7600/7700 blocks of Maple Avenue. She contacted the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and registered the Takoma Park Police Department as a drop-off location for the National Drug Take Back Day.
- On March 21, Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye conducted morning business checks in the 1100/1300 blocks of University Blvd. and the 7600/7500/7400 blocks of New Hampshire Avenue. She provided assistance to a citizen inquiring about vehicle protection and personal safety for her college-aged daughter. She created a Twitter account specifically for the Community Outreach Program. She conducted a telephone interview requested by a college student for a research paper on the law enforcement profession.
- On March 22, Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye provided information to neighborhood watch groups in regards to the success of non-traditional concepts (such as e-mail listservs and Facebook groups). She created lesson plans for the Junior Police Academy day camp sessions. She followed up on concerns for a senior citizen's welfare and contacted Adult Protective Services, who will handle the case. She attended the Montgomery County Post-Prom Graduation Committee open house. *(Police)*

**26. Crime Report:** The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (March 16-22, 2012) may be viewed online at: [http://cathyplevy.blogspot.com/2012/03/takoma-park-police-department-weekly\\_22.html](http://cathyplevy.blogspot.com/2012/03/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_22.html). *(Police)*

**27. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 125 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four vehicle impounds, four Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrests, and one warrant service (from traffic).

*During March 14-21, 2012, the following details were completed:*

March 14, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue at Manor Circle (failure to obey traffic control device) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 7400 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued six State citations for speed and four other State citations.

March 15, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue at Manor Circle (failure to obey traffic control device) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued no citations or violations.
- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.

March 16, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.
- Flower Avenue at Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.

March 17, 2012

- Erskine Street at 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations and one warning.

March 19, 2012

- Takoma Langley Crossroads Area (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued 11 State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Manor Circle (violations of traffic control device) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations.

March 20, 2012

- 7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Manor Circle (violation of traffic control device) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- 7400 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued six State citations.

March 21, 2012

- Flower Avenue at Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued six State citations. *(Police)*

**28. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):**

*Week of March 16-22, 2012*

State Citations issued: 67

City Citations issued: 26

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 4

Warnings: 2

Training: 3.5 hours

*(Police)*